

03-123

Sandra Lyn Bailey

From: silveradoboy2000@comcast.net
Sent: Thursday, May 18, 2006 1:04 AM
To: KJMWEB; jriccker@neca.org
Subject: Deaf Rights and needs

RECEIVED
JUN 5 2006
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Sirs or Madams,

My name is William E Purdy,III and I am a user of VRS services, and I am concerned about the proposed cuts in VRS services. Please reconsider the cutting of the expense budget towards this wonderful service that allows us to communicate in an expediete manner.

Sincerely,
William E. Purdy,III

No. of Copies rec'd 0
List ABCDE

5/24/2006

SandraLyn Bailey

From: waveitall-bee@yahoo.com
Sent: Thursday, May 18, 2006 1:07 AM
To: KJMWEB
Subject: pls re-think this over for VRS support

03-123
 RECEIVED
 JUN 5 2006
 Federal Communications Commission
 Office of the Secretary

To take away funding for VRS education is inconsistent with the American Disabilities Act (ADA) and is insensitive to the deaf and hard-of-hearing community. Check with your HR department, do you have any employee who is deaf or hearing impaired? Does your organization understand the history about deaf/hearing impaired people? You will find many workers working at VRS who are hearing people like you, most of them are raised by deaf or hearing impaired parents. They have/has gone through living with deaf/hearing impaired person & helping them with the phone. Where's is their credits for helping our needs by allowing us to be more independent with this hearing world. Another question is think about this, why not select one of your employee go to any deaf university get a better understanding the way we communicate before making any misleading judgment on your behavior against the will of needs at VRS. We all need VRS, likewise you get cell phone voices and how would you like it if not enough support to support cells phone and cut you off and you would be pissed off. Be a wise supporter for VRS and work with us in order to allow more deaf & hearing impaired people to have the opportunity to have better jobs or has a job and need to use VRS at work. Be a saint and avoid conflicts with ADA which can cost more then what you are asking by avoiding cutting/delaying funds for VRS. OK, let say the doctor told you that you child is going to be deaf... is this world ready for that child. So, this is something you really need do some re-thinking. Keep you chin up...OK.

PS. I do not like your hat and you need a better hat. This is a metaphor statement. Like saying get rid of old stuff and go on with new stuff.

From American workers and also an Union member,
 Daniel Manning Jr.

No. of Copies rec'd 0
 List ABOVE

5/24/2006

03-123

Sandra Lyn Bailey

From: Kent Munro [kent.munro@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, May 05, 2006 11:32 AM
To: KJMWEB
Subject: Require Relay Interoperability

RECEIVED
JUN 5 2006
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

May 5, 2006
Commissioner Kevin Martin
445 12th St SW
445 12th St SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Commissioner Martin,

I was gratified to learn that the FCC is "actively considering" the issue of blocked access to video relay services (VRS). Please require interoperability and compatibility across Relay providers at the earliest possible date. I agree with the National Association of the Deaf that this rule should be required. See <http://www.nad.org/openrelay> for more information.

I want to be able to use Relay anytime with anyone, using any Relay provider, just as two hearing people can call each other regardless of who is their telephone product/service provider.

Video and IM Relay have become valuable tools for me. The traditional telephone (including TTY) is not practical for me. The use of Relay has made my work much more effective and I have become more productive. However, the value of Relay is limited because not everyone has access to my Relay product/service. Please end the exclusion of deaf and hard of hearing people from full access to telecommunications by requiring open interoperability and compatibility across Relay providers.

I do accept free Relay equipment and software from providers—not necessarily because I like a particular provider the most—but because it is free—and allows me to make calls I couldn't make before. While I appreciate the free equipment and software, I want to be able to make and receive Relay calls from anybody without any restrictions from Relay providers.

I look forward to the FCC acting quickly to implement rules ending blocking and requiring interoperability.

Sincerely,

Kent Munro
2715 Vivians Way
Saint Leonard, MD 20685

CC: Representative Steny Hoyer
Senator Paul Sarbanes

No. of Copies rec'd 0
List ABOVE

5/24/2006

03-123

Sandra Lyn Bailey

From: AndDennis@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, May 18, 2006 11:05 AM
To: KJMWEB
Subject: VideoPhone Relay Service

RECEIVED
 JUN 5 2006
 Federal Communications Commission
 Office of the Secretary

Dear Sir,

I am born DEAF. I am really happy to use VideoPhone Relay Service (VRS). In my life, I depend on VRS to call to hearing people (Like my mother). You know that I can not use regular phone to call hearing people because I am Deaf!

Please stop to cut the funds for VideoPhone Relay Service (VRS).

Dennis R. Anderson
 1125 Rosetree Lane
 Cincinnati, OH 45230 - 4004
 Tel: 866-327-8877 (VRS)
 ask for Dennis' 513-232-6733

1-800-477-6622 rec'd 0
 LIA/ABODE

5/24/2006

JUN 5 2006
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

To: KJMWEB

keeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeepppppppppppppppppppppppppppppp vrs

5/24/2006

03-123

Sandra Lyn Bailey

From: RMadding@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, May 18, 2006 12:59 PM
To: KJMWEB
Cc: RMadding@aol.com
Subject: VRS FUNDING

RECEIVED
JUN 5 2006
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

ATTENTION FCC!

I am writing to request that you do not reduce funding for VRS, because the deaf communities in the United States are in need of providing communication services, as well as other services on behalf of the deaf communities.

Sincerely,

Ronald Madding,
Oregon

Number of copies received 0
FILED

5/24/2006

03-123

SandraLyn Bailey

From: Mary Moore [mkmoore57@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 18, 2006 1:41 AM
To: KJMWEB; KJMWEB
Subject: Impact on VRS Services

RECEIVED
 JUN 5 2006
 Federal Communications Commission
 United States Department of Justice

Dear FCC members:

I am writing in regards to the NECA possible decision to not reimburse Video Relay Service (VRS) for all of the outreach expenses and outreach education. In addition, NECA and the FCC are considering decreasing the VRS rate for supporting the VRS for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

I want to share with you my experience as a President of Board of Directors for Central Florida Deaf Services, Inc. in Lakeland, Florida. We have set up a VRS booth in our office for our walk-in clients. We have seen an increase of the number of clients everyday who have had trouble using the TTY relay service use the VRS with ease as they can communicate in their native language and knowing that with the excellent skills of the interpreter can communicate with their doctors, businesses, their employers, friends, and families.

As a VRS user on the job I noticed the improved relations with my coworkers and customers who are hearing since using VRS. Many people have told me how much better it was to use VRS over the TTY relay services and even using CAPTEL services.

I am against FCC and NECA thoughts on reducing the VRS reimbursement for VRS services. I am also against NECA thoughts on cutting funds to support outreach to the Deaf and Hard of Hearing regarding VRS. We have just scratched the surface in informing our Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

Furthermore, I truly feel that I think FCC should also support paying for all or part of the high speed internet billing costs for all customers who use VRS to ensure equal access to telecommunication services.

Thank you for listening to my concerns.

Mary K. Moore
 Central Florida Deaf Services, Inc.
 Board President
 Lakeland, Florida

No. of Copies rec'd 0
 List ABCDE

SandraLyn Bailey

From: Chris & Craig Turner [cturner4@ec.rr.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 18, 2006 1:58 PM
To: KJMWEB
Subject: vrs rate decrease

03-123

RECEIVED
JUN 5 2006
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

To take away funding for VRS education is inconsistent with the American Disabilities Act (ADA) and is insensitive to the deaf and hard-of-hearing community. Please reconsider. The VRS has opened up communication for the Deaf as never before. If anything, VRS needs an increase in funding to provide:

- 1. Invest in new interpreters to meet growing VRS demand**
- 2. Train interpreters to ensure professional VRS services**
- 3. Provide 911 emergency access for VRS users**
- 4. Provide interoperability**
- 5. Meet the speed-of-answer requirement to ensure that all VRS calls are quickly processed**

**Respectfully yours,
Michael H Turner
Christine M Turner
Craig Turne**

Amount Copies rec'd _____
CJ / SCDE

0

5/24/2006

Sandralyn Bailey

From: Phyllis Adams [padams7@sc.rr.com]

Sent: Thursday, May 18, 2006 3:43 PM

To: KJMWEB; jrick@neca.org

03-123
RECEIVED
JUN 5 2006
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Consumer & Community Affairs

I as a Deaf citizen urge the FCC and NECA to not reduce the cost expense to use VRS. Many Deaf or HOH thruout U.S. enjoy using the VRS thru qualified interpreter and talking with Deaf friends with American Sign Language. We Deaf urge you not to reduce the cost of using VRS, interpreter and long distance. We Deaf have suffered more than 200 yrs. of not being able to communicate with other deaf people. This VRS will help us Deaf to keep up what is going on with other Deaf Association and Deaf community. If you reduce the use of VRS, then the Deaf not be able to use VRS anymore. We do appreciate what FCC had done in providing this VRS service and allow the Deaf to talk anywhere with their Deaf friend.

Number of Copies rec'd _____
JWA/BCDE

0

5/24/2006

03-123

Sandralyn Bailey

From: andrew@apitchford.com
Sent: Thursday, May 18, 2006 6:32 PM
To: KJMWEB
Subject: VRS Rates for the Year 2006-2007

RECEIVED
JUN 5 2006
Federal Communications Commission

To Whom It May Concern:

I got a news from Sorenson and been told us about you are consider to cut the rate on VRS (Video Relay Service). I don't know how and why the reason you decide this issue. I understand that costs expenses are lot to spend. I have start using Video Relay Service by Sorenson provider and use their service. My family and I start communicate, even my doctor and another starts communicate than before the regular tty in old time. However, I disagree and encourage you not to consider made that happen.

If you decrease the rate and what happen to rest of video relay service project? They might not have enough projects to spending on 911 systems that primary safe and sense. We could like to have normal fast respond to get interpreter ready for my next calls instead putting us waiting list. The FCC requires reducing amount of time waiting but now thing has change the rate? How those benefits to reduce by FCC can requires increase respond or service. It not same similar as hearing people have no problem deal with their job and our limitation to require interpreter and assist the people because you and the rest of hearing people doesn't know sign language and only who knew sign language was taught.

How can the technical increases without your support for deaf needs due on ADA that need met our needs. It not mean be donate and it can mean something to made business grow to become as second telephone such as AT&T and Verizon or another that can apply for Sorenson service. I hope thing will be equal access that we, the people, can communicate better. If you do reduce and that will affect a lot of people who is deaf and work for company that use videophone communicate to customer and can lead affect their job achieve fragile because of this. If still going on with rate little up or stay on where the rate and we are fine with it.

Andrew Pitchford
2735 Indian Creek Blvd
Oklahoma City, OK 73120

125-100-1000000 0
LAW/1000

5/24/2006

Sandralyn Bailey

From: Nick [nr206n@att.net]

Sent: Thursday, May 18, 2006 9:52 PM

To: KJMWEB; jricker@neca.org

Subject: concern for funding VRS outreach and providing a stable VRS reimbursement rate.

YOU CANNOT THINK OF CUTTING THE WONDERFUL SERVICES PROVIDED TO THE DEAF PERSONS WHO USE THE VIDEOPHONES AND VRS INTERPRETERS. HOW DO YOU FEEL IF THEY CUT OFF YOUR CELLPHONES AND YOUR EMAILS DUE TO THE INCREASING COST OF OPERATIONS ON THESE CELLPHONES AND EMAILS SERVICES. JUST WHO THE #\$^\$& DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?? DONT YOU DARE TO CUT THE SERVICES TO THE DEAF PERSONS!!!!

WE THE DEAF PERSONS HAVE A HARD TIME DEALING WITH THOSE IGNORANTS HEARING PERSONS WHO ALWAYS OPRESS US JUST BECAUSE WE CANNOT SPEAK THEIR SPOKEN ENGLISH LANGUAGE. WE THE DEAF PERSONS REALLY NEED THE WONDERFUL VIDEOPHONES TO MAKE CALLS TO OUR LOVED ONES AND FRIENDS USING OUR TRUE LANGUAGE WHICH IS KNOWN AS SIGN LANGUAGE.

FROM A HEAVY USER OF VIDEOPHONE

NICHOLAS ROMANO

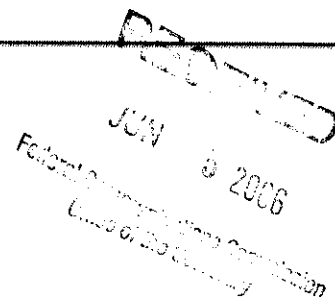
No. of Copies rec'd 0
List ABCDE

5/24/2006

03-123

Sandra Lyn Bailey

From: Adam Stone [adamstone@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, May 22, 2006 10:09 AM
To: Kevin Martin; Jonathan Adelstein; Michael Copps; Deborah Tate
Subject: Don't Cut The VRS Rate



Dear Chairman Martin, Commissioners Adelstein, Copps and Tate:

I am a Deaf person and I use Video Relay Service to communicate. I am writing to thank you for supporting services that meet the communications needs of the Deaf and hard-of-hearing community, and to urge you to increase rather than cut the rate for these vital services. I, together with many other Deaf people, their families and coworkers, depend on VRS and other relay services to communicate with hearing people and other Deaf people.

We should be encouraging more deaf people to use VRS. Deaf people use these services as part of their work and part of their lives. We urge you to do everything you can to make VRS and other relay services available to the many Deaf people who do not currently know they are available.

The FCC has mandated improvements in VRS, and we applaud those improvements. We urge you to provide adequate funding to support continued improvement to VRS, and to support outreach to more people in the Deaf community.

Please increase funding for VRS and other relay services, don't cut it.

Sincerely,
Adam Stone

No. of Copies rec'd _____
List ABCDE _____

0

5/24/2006

03-123

Sandralyn Bailey

From: Adam Stone [adamstone@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, May 22, 2006 10:09 AM
To: Kevin Martin; Jonathan Adelstein; Michael Copps; Deborah Tate
Subject: Don't Cut The VRS Rate

Dear Chairman Martin, Commissioners Adelstein, Copps and Tate:

I am a Deaf person and I use Video Relay Service to communicate. I am writing to thank you for supporting services that meet the communications needs of the Deaf and hard-of-hearing community, and to urge you to increase rather than cut the rate for these vital services. I, together with many other Deaf people, their families and coworkers, depend on VRS and other relay services to communicate with hearing people and other Deaf people.

We should be encouraging more deaf people to use VRS. Deaf people use these services as part of their work and part of their lives. We urge you to do everything you can to make VRS and other relay services available to the many Deaf people who do not currently know they are available.

The FCC has mandated improvements in VRS, and we applaud those improvements. We urge you to provide adequate funding to support continued improvement to VRS, and to support outreach to more people in the Deaf community.

Please increase funding for VRS and other relay services, don't cut it.

Sincerely,
Adam Stone

No. of Copies rec'd _____
List ABOVE _____

0

5/24/2006

SandraLyn Bailey

From: MickTheBlueUCLA1@aol.com
Sent: Monday, May 22, 2006 10:32 AM
To: Michael Copps
Subject: Don't cut The VRS rate

03-123

RECEIVED
JUN 5 2006
Federal Communications Commission
Consumer & Accessibility

Dear Chairman Martin, Commissioners Adelstein, Copps and Tate:

I am a Deaf person and I use Video Relay Service, IP Relay or TTY to communicate. I am writing to thank you for supporting services that meet the communications needs of the Deaf and hard-of-hearing community, and to urge you to increase rather than cut the rate for these vital services. I, together with many other Deaf people, their families and coworkers, depend on VRS and other relay services to communicate with hearing people and other Deaf people.

We should be encouraging more deaf people to use VRS. Deaf people use these services as part of their work and part of their lives. We urge you to do everything you can to make VRS and other relay services available to the many Deaf people who do not currently know they are available.

The FCC has mandated improvements in VRS, and we applaud those improvements. We urge you to provide adequate funding to support continued improvement to VRS, and to support outreach to more people in the Deaf community.

Increase funding for VRS and other relay services, don't cut it.

Sincerely,

Michael Olguin

No. of Copies rec'd 0
List ABCDE

5/24/2006

SandraLyn Bailey

From: MickTheBlueUCLA1@aol.com
Sent: Monday, May 22, 2006 10:31 AM
To: Jonathan Adelstein
Subject: Don't cut The VRS rate

03-123
RECEIVED
JUN 5 2006
Federal Communications Commission
Consumer & Advocacy

Dear Chairman Martin, Commissioners Adelstein, Copps and Tate:

I am a Deaf person and I use Video Relay Service, IP Relay or TTY to communicate. I am writing to thank you for supporting services that meet the communications needs of the Deaf and hard-of-hearing community, and to urge you to increase rather than cut the rate for these vital services. I, together with many other Deaf people, their families and coworkers, depend on VRS and other relay services to communicate with hearing people and other Deaf people.

We should be encouraging more deaf people to use VRS. Deaf people use these services as part of their work and part of their lives. We urge you to do everything you can to make VRS and other relay services available to the many Deaf people who do not currently know they are available.

The FCC has mandated improvements in VRS, and we applaud those improvements. We urge you to provide adequate funding to support continued improvement to VRS, and to support outreach to more people in the Deaf community.

Increase funding for VRS and other relay services, don't cut it.

Sincerely,

Michael Olguin

No. of Copies rec'd 0
List ABCDE

5/24/2006

SandraLyn Bailey**From:** Guidera, Patricia [Guidera.Patricia@tchden.org]**Sent:** Monday, May 22, 2006 11:07 AM**To:** Kevin Martin; Jonathan Adelstein; Michael Copps; Deborah Tate

Dear Chairman Martin, Commissioners Adelstein, Copps and Tate:

I am a Deaf person and I use Video Relay Service, IP Relay or TTY to communicate. I am writing to thank you for supporting services that meet the communications needs of the Deaf and hard-of-hearing community, and to urge you to increase rather than cut the rate for these vital services. I, together with many other Deaf people, their families and coworkers, depend on VRS and other relay services to communicate with hearing people and other Deaf people.

We should be encouraging more deaf people to use VRS. Deaf people use these services as part of their work and part of their lives. We urge you to do everything you can to make VRS and other relay services available to the many Deaf people who do not currently know they are available.

The FCC has mandated improvements in VRS, and we applaud those improvements. We urge you to provide adequate funding to support continued improvement to VRS, and to support outreach to more people in the Deaf community.

Increase funding for VRS and other relay services, don't cut it.

Sincerely,

Patty Guidera

Patty Guidera

God bless America!

EOB/Denial Management Coordinator

Patient Financial Services B095

303-837-2501 TTY

Use Relay 711

fax: 303-861-6597

Guidera.Patricia@tchden.org

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: The information contained in this message is legally privileged and confidential information intended for the use of the individual or entity named above. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or the employee or agent responsible to deliver it to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any release, dissemination, distribution, or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify the author immediately by replying to this message and delete the original message.

Thank you

No. of Copies rec'd 0
List ABCDE

5/24/2006

03-123

Sandralyn Bailey

From: Tami [thedavidson.home@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 23, 2006 2:56 PM
To: Kevin Martin; Jonathan Adelstein; Michael Copps; Deborah Tate
Subject: Please Dont Cut The VRS Rate!

JUN 5 2006
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Chairman Martin, Commissioners Adelstein, Copps and Tate:

I am a Deaf person and I use Video Relay Service, IP Relay or TTY to communicate. I am writing to thank you for supporting services that meet the communications needs of the Deaf and hard-of-hearing community, and to urge you to increase rather than cut the rate for these vital services. I, together with many other Deaf people, their families and coworkers, depend on VRS and other relay services to communicate with hearing people and other Deaf people.

We should be encouraging more deaf people to use VRS. Deaf people use these services as part of their work and part of their lives. We urge you to **please** do everything you can to make VRS and other relay services available to the many Deaf people who do not currently know they are available.

The FCC has mandated improvements in VRS, and we applaud those improvements. We urge you to provide adequate funding to support continued improvement to VRS, and to support outreach to more people in the Deaf community.

Increase funding for VRS and other relay services, don't cut it.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Tamara Davidson

Ring'em or ping'em. Make PC-to-phone calls as low as 1¢/min with Yahoo! Messenger with Voice.

No. of Copies rec'd 0
List ABCDE

5/24/2006

03-123

Sandra Lyn Bailey

From: Ronald Howell [Rhowell14@sc.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 23, 2006 8:06 PM
To: Kevin Martin; Jonathan Adelstein; Michael Copps; Deborah Tate
Subject: Increase VRS funding: don't cut it

JUN 6 2006
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Chairman Martin, Commissioners Adelstein, Copps and Tate:

I am a deaf person and I use Video Relay Service, IP Relay or TTY to communicate. I am writing to thank you for supporting services that meet the communications needs of the deaf and hard-of-hearing community, and to urge you to increase rather than cut the rate for these vital services. I, together with many other deaf people, their families and coworkers, depend on VRS and other relay services to communicate with hearing people and other deaf people.

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The FCC has mandated improvements in VRS, and we applaud those improvements. We urge you to provide adequate funding to support continued improvement to VRS, and to support outreach to more people in the deaf community.

Increase funding for VRS and other relay services, don't cut it.

Thank you.

No. of Copies rec'd 0
List ABCDE

5/24/2006

03-123

SandraLyn Bailey

From: Derek Hodgson [DMHodgson9@msn.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 23, 2006 9:32 PM
To: KJMWEB
Subject: Require Relay Interoperability

JUN 5 2006
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

May 23, 2006
Commissioner Kevin J. Martin
445 12th St SW
445 12th St SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Kevin J. Martin,

I was gratified to learn that the FCC is "actively considering" the issue of blocked access to video relay services (VRS). Please require interoperability and compatibility across Relay providers at the earliest possible date. I agree with the National Association of the Deaf that this rule should be required. See <http://www.nad.org/openrelay> for more information.

I want to be able to use Relay anytime with anyone, using any Relay provider, just as two hearing people can call each other regardless of who is their telephone product/service provider.

Video and IM Relay have become valuable tools for me. The traditional telephone (including TTY) is not practical for me. The use of Relay has made my work much more effective and I have become more productive. However, the value of Relay is limited because not everyone has access to my Relay product/service. Please end the exclusion of deaf and hard of hearing people from full access to telecommunications by requiring open interoperability and compatibility across Relay providers.

I do accept free Relay equipment and software from providers—not necessarily because I like a particular provider the most—but because it is free—and allows me to make calls I couldn't make before. While I appreciate the free equipment and software, I want to be able to make and receive Relay calls from anybody without any restrictions from Relay providers.

I look forward to the FCC acting quickly to implement rules ending blocking and requiring interoperability.

Sincerely,

Derek Hodgson
26 Lema Ln
Palm Coast, FL 32137-9765

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5/24/2006

03-123

Sandralyn Bailey

From: Elmer and Deanne Lundstedt [lunds7@eaglecom.net]
Sent: Tuesday, May 23, 2006 10:44 PM
To: Kevin Martin; Jonathan Adelstein; Michael Copps; Deborah Tate
Subject: Increase VRS funding: don't cut it

RECEIVED
JUN 1 4 2006
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20541

Dear Chairman Martin, Commissioners Adelstein, Copps and Tate:

I am a deaf person and I use Video Relay Service, IP Relay or TTY to communicate. I am writing to thank you for supporting services that meet the communications needs of the deaf and hard-of-hearing community, and to urge you to increase rather than cut the rate for these vital services. I, together with many other deaf people, their families and coworkers, depend on VRS and other relay services to communicate with hearing people and other deaf people.

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The FCC has mandated improvements in VRS, and we applaud those improvements. We urge you to provide adequate funding to support continued improvement to VRS, and to support outreach to more people in the deaf community.

Increase funding for VRS and other relay services, don't cut it.

Thank you.

Elmer Lundstedt

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List ABOVE

5/24/2006

03-123

Sandralyn Bailey

From: Elmer and Deanne Lundstedt [lunds7@eaglecom.net]
Sent: Tuesday, May 23, 2006 10:44 PM
To: Kevin Martin; Jonathan Adelstein; Michael Copps; Deborah Tate
Subject: Increase VRS funding: don't cut it

RECEIVED
JUN 5 2006
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Chairman Martin, Commissioners Adelstein, Copps and Tate:

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Increase funding for VRS and other relay services, don't cut it.

Thank you.
Deanne Lundstedt

No. of Copies rec'd 0
List ABODE

5/24/2006

03-123

Sandra Lyn Bailey

From: Lurinne Busby [lurine@bellsouth.net]
Sent: Thursday, May 18, 2006 12:20 PM
To: KJMWEB
Subject: Funding for VRS education

RECEIVED
JUN 6 2006
Federal Communications Commission
United States Department of Justice

I am concerned for funding VRS outreach and providing a stable VRS reimbursement rate.

To take away funding for VRS education is inconsistent with the American Disabilities Act (ADA) and is insensitive to the deaf and hard-of-hearing community.

Lurinne Busby

FREE Emoticons for your email!

[Click Here!](#)



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5/24/2006

03-123

Sandralyn Bailey

From: WhiteGardenia50@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 24, 2006 3:20 AM
To: Kevin Martin; Jonathan Adelstein; Michael Copps; Deborah Tate
Subject: Increase VRS funding; don't cut it

RECEIVED
JUN 5 2006
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Dear Chairman Martin, Commissioners Adelstein, Copps and Tate:

I am a deaf person and I use Video Relay Service, IP Relay or TTY to communicate. I am writing to thank you for supporting services that meet the communications needs of the deaf and hard-of-hearing community, and to urge you to increase rather than cut the rate for these vital services. I, together with many other deaf people, their families and coworkers, depend on VRS and other relay services to communicate with hearing people and other deaf people.

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Increase funding for VRS and other relay services, don't cut it.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Penny Nystrom
From Kansas

No. of Copies rec'd 0
List ABCDE

5/24/2006

03-123

Robert Warner

From: MickTheBlueUCLA1@aol.com
Sent: Monday, May 22, 2006 10:33 AM
To: Deborah Tate
Subject: Don't cut The VRS rate

RECEIVED
JUN 6 2006
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Chairman Martin, Commissioners Adelstein, Copps and Tate:

I am a Deaf person and I use Video Relay Service, IP Relay or TTY to communicate. I am writing to thank you for supporting services that meet the communications needs of the Deaf and hard-of-hearing community, and to urge you to increase rather than cut the rate for these vital services. I, together with many other Deaf people, their families and coworkers, depend on VRS and other relay services to communicate with hearing people and other Deaf people.

We should be encouraging more deaf people to use VRS. Deaf people use these services as part of their work and part of their lives. We urge you to do everything you can to make VRS and other relay services available to the many Deaf people who do not currently know they are available.

The FCC has mandated improvements in VRS, and we applaud those improvements. We urge you to provide adequate funding to support continued improvement to VRS, and to support outreach to more people in the Deaf community.

Increase funding for VRS and other relay services, don't cut it.

Sincerely,

Michael Olguin

No. of Copies rec'd 0
110 / 0000

5/23/2006

03-123

Robert Warner

From: Adam Stone [adamstone@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, May 22, 2006 10:09 AM
To: Kevin Martin; Jonathan Adelstein; Michael Copps; Deborah Tate
Subject: Don't Cut The VRS Rate

RECEIVED
JUN 5 2006
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Chairman Martin, Commissioners Adelstein, Copps and Tate:

I am a Deaf person and I use Video Relay Service to communicate. I am writing to thank you for supporting services that meet the communications needs of the Deaf and hard-of-hearing community, and to urge you to increase rather than cut the rate for these vital services. I, together with many other Deaf people, their families and coworkers, depend on VRS and other relay services to communicate with hearing people and other Deaf people.

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Please increase funding for VRS and other relay services, don't cut it.

Sincerely,
Adam Stone

No. of Copies rec'd 0
LHA ABCDE

5/23/2006

Susan Fisenne

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

03723

From:
Sent:
To:
Subject:

Melinda Harrison [melinda.harrison@gmail.com]
Monday, May 22, 2006 12:10 PM
Kevin Martin; Jonathan Adelstein; Michael Copps; Deborah Tate
FCC and VRS

RECEIVED

JUN 5 2006

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Chairman Martin, Commissioners Adelstein, Copps and Tate:

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The FCC has mandated improvements in VRS, and we applaud those improvements. We urge you to provide adequate funding to support continued improvement to VRS, and to support outreach to more people in the Deaf community. This is the age of technology, so by cutting funding for VRS and other relay services, we would be taking two steps backwards instead of taking one step forward. Deaf people are covered under the American Disabilities Act (ADA), and the invention and technology of VRS has allowed us to experience "functional equivalency" as any other person with normal hearing. Please do not take that away from us.

Again, increase funding for VRS and other relay services - don't cut it.

Sincerely,

Melinda Harrison
San Diego, California

No. of Copies rec'd 0
List ABCDE

Susan Fisenne

03-123

From: MickTheBlueUCLA1@aol.com
Sent: Monday, May 22, 2006 10:33 AM
To: Deborah Tate
Subject: Don't cut The VRS rate

RECEIVED
JUN 5 2006
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Chairman Martin, Commissioners Adelstein, Copps and Tate:

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Sincerely,

Michael Olguin

No. of Copies rec'd 0
List ABOVE

5/22/2006

Susan Fisenne

RECEIVED

03-123

From: Guidera, Patricia [Guidera.Patricia@tchden.org]

Sent: Monday, May 22, 2006 11:07 AM

To: Kevin Martin; Jonathan Adelstein; Michael Copps; Deborah Tate

JUN 5 2006
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Chairman Martin, Commissioners Adelstein, Copps and Tate:

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Increase funding for VRS and other relay services, don't cut it.

Sincerely,

Patty Guidera

Patty Guidera

God bless America!

EOB/Denial Management Coordinator

Patient Financial Services B095

303-837-2501 TTY

Use Relay 711

fax: 303-861-6597

Guidera.Patricia@tchden.org

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: The information contained in this message is legally privileged and confidential information intended for the use of the individual or entity named above. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or the employee or agent responsible to deliver it to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any release, dissemination, distribution, or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify the author immediately by replying to this message and delete the original message.

Thank you

No. of Copies rec'd 0
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FIS/ASODE

5/22/2006

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Thank you

No. of Copies rec'd 0
List ABOVE

5/23/2006

Robert Warner

03-123

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Sent: Monday, May 22, 2006 12:10 PM
To: Kevin Martin; Jonathan Adelstein; Michael Copps; Deborah Tate
Subject: FCC and VRS

RECEIVED

JUN 5 2006

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Office of the Secretary

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Again, increase funding for VRS and other relay services - don't cut it.

Sincerely,

Melinda Harrison
San Diego, California

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LAW OFFICE

0

03-123

Elise Jones

From: Tami [thedavidson.home@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 23, 2006 2:56 PM
To: Kevin Martin; Jonathan Adelstein; Michael Copps; Deborah Tate
Subject: Please Dont Cut The VRS Rate!

RECEIVED
JUN 6 2006
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Chairman Martin, Commissioners Adelstein, Copps and Tate:

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Increase funding for VRS and other relay services, don't cut it.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Tamara Davidson

Ring'em or ping'em. Make PC-to-phone calls as low as 1¢/min with Yahoo! Messenger with Voice.

No. of Copies rec'd 0
List ABODE

5/23/2006

03-123

Susan Fisenne

From: Elmer and Deanne Lundstedt [lunds7@eaglecom.net]
Sent: Tuesday, May 23, 2006 10:44 PM
To: Kevin Martin; Jonathan Adelstein; Michael Copps; Deborah Tate
Subject: Increase VRS funding: don't cut it

RECEIVED
JUN 5 2006
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

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Thank you.
Deanne Lundstedt

No. of Copies rec'd 0
DATE 5/24/2006

5/24/2006

03-123

Susan Fisenne

From: Ronald Howell [Rhowell14@sc.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 23, 2006 8:06 PM
To: Kevin Martin; Jonathan Adelstein; Michael Copps; Deborah Tate
Subject: Increase VRS funding: don't cut it

RECEIVED
JUN 5 2006
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

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Increase funding for VRS and other relay services, don't cut it.

Thank you.

No. of Copies rec'd 0
List ABOVE

5/24/2006

Susan Fisenne

From: WhiteGardenia50@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 24, 2006 3:20 AM
To: Kevin Martin; Jonathan Adelstein; Michael Copps; Deborah Tate
Subject: Increase VRS funding: don't cut it

03-123
RECEIVED
JUN 5 2006
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

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Thank you.

Sincerely,
Penny Nystrom
From Kansas

No. of Copies rec'd 0
LBI ABODE

5/24/2006

Sandra Lyn Bailey

03-123

From: Wanda Garner-Gaddis [Wandadaxx1@aim.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 02, 2006 6:02 AM
To: KJMWEB
Subject: Thank you for the new VRS rules

RECEIVED
JUN 5 2006
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

May 2, 2006
Commissioner Kevin Martin
445 12th St SW
445 12th St SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Commissioner Martin,

Thank you for your decisive leadership on July 14, 2005 accepting the National Association of the Deaf petition on captioning, adopting Video Relay Service (VRS) rules that will improve the quality of VRS and ensure that it moves closer to the goal of functional equivalent access to telecommunications, and clarifying that two-line captioned telephone service can be reimbursed by the TRS fund.

I am thrilled with the new VRS rules that the FCC passed to ensure that the service is brought closer to the goal of a functional equivalent telecommunications service. These rules will make our lives easier now that I can access the nation's telephone network using VRS, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and with a prompt response to my initial call. In addition, I look forward to using the VRS Mail feature to leave messages with my friends, family, and co-workers. I also look forward to new rules upgrading and enforcing the quality of captions on television.

However, I urge the FCC to continue to improve the speed of answer for VRS and to enforce FCC rules against blocking. I should be able to use any provider I want without interference from any other provider.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Wanda Garner-Gaddis
1365 Kennon Rd
Fortson, GA 31808

No. of Copies rec'd 0
LIST ABOVE

SandraLyn Bailey

03-123

From: Elizabeth O'Dell [eodell@umich.edu]
Sent: Thursday, May 04, 2006 12:52 PM
To: KJMWEB
Subject: Thank you for the new VRS rules

RECEIVED
JUN 5 2006
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

May 4, 2006
Commissioner Kevin Martin
445 12th St SW
445 12th St SW
Washington, DC 20554

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Thank you!

Sincerely,

Elizabeth O'Dell
2910 Pheasant Run Dr Apt G
Jackson, MI 49202

No. of Copies rec'd 0
List ABOVE

Sandralyn Bailey

03-123

From: Jessica Serafin [jserafin@sfsu.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, May 09, 2006 11:59 PM
To: KJMWEB
Subject: Video Relay Service

RECEIVED
JUN 8 2006
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Chairman Kevin J. Martin,

I am very impressed with FCC for feeling that it is important for the communication of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing to have access to the use of any VRS provider. I believe that the loss of hearing should not affect someones ability to communicate through the telephone, especially with the technology we have today. Just as it is important to have the option of any other language, American Sign Language should be recognized as important and as a true language, like it is. It is important to include all cultures and differences in the country, and I, for once, am happy to say that the FCC seems to be implementing a valid and more progressive petition.

Thank you,
Jessica Serafin

No. of Copies rec'd 0
LRABCODE

Sandra Lyn Bailey

03-123

From: David Trachtenberg (4davidt@earthlink.net)
Sent: Thursday, May 18, 2006 12:05 PM
To: KJMWEB
Subject: Comments to the Chairman

RECEIVED
JUN 1 2006
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Chairman

David Trachtenberg (4davidt@earthlink.net) writes:

Do not reduce amount for Video Relay service. It will cause more low quality of video relay service. Do not demand more from video relay service. Give them more time to improve and expand more office all over places in the USA

Server protocol: HTTP/1.1
Remote host: 24.235.75.53
Remote IP address: 24.235.75.53

rec'd 0
JUN 1 2006

03-123

SandraLyn Bailey

From: George A. Adams III [wahoo4438@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 18, 2006 12:46 PM
To: KJMWEB
Subject: Comments to the Chairman

George A. Adams III (wahoo4438@yahoo.com) writes:

- Click here to read the FCC Commissioner comments
- Click here to read the NAD/TDI filing
- Click here to read Sorenson Communications' press release
(Previous Sorenson Communications' press release 5-2-06)
- Click here to read CSD's press release
- Click here to read what VRS Providers are saying

RECEIVED
JUN 16 2006
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Read this article and contact the FCC to make sure your VRS communication needs are met!

The rate for the year 2006-2007 is in the process of being set for VRS services. Fair VRS rates ensure that:

equivalent access is available for all deaf individuals
high quality VRS services are provided
professional interpreters are adequately trained
technology innovation is encouraged

The National Exchange Carriers Association (NECA)'s public position is that VRS providers should not be reimbursed for all of their outreach expenses. However, outreach expenses cover VRS education. This is the only mechanism through which deaf individuals learn about the VRS technology and service offerings. Also, this is the way that additional deaf individuals gain access to VRS. To take away funding for VRS education is inconsistent with the American Disabilities Act (ADA) and is insensitive to the deaf and hard-of-hearing community.

Second, NECA and the FCC are considering decreasing the VRS rate, which is inconsistent with developments that can be expected to drive up the cost of providing VRS. We expect all VRS providers to:

Invest in new interpreters to meet growing VRS demand
Train interpreters to ensure professional VRS services
Provide 911 emergency access for VRS users
Provide interoperability
Meet the speed-of-answer requirement to ensure that all VRS calls are quickly processed
However, by recommending a lower VRS reimbursement rate when costs are increasing NECA and the FCC are encouraging VRS providers to cut back on vital long-term services such as interpreter training and life-saving 911 solutions. An adequate, stable reimbursement rate is essential to the mission of providing communication services to the deaf community!

Raise your voice to ensure the future of VRS! Contact the FCC and NECA directly to let them know of your concern for funding VRS outreach and providing a stable VRS reimbursement rate.

E-mail the FCC at kjmweb@fcc.gov and NECA at jricker@neca.org.

Server protocol: HTTP/1.1
Remote host: 65.184.101.155

No. of Copies rec'd 0
List ABCDE

SandraLyn Bailey

03-123

From: Melinda Harrison [melinda.harrison@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, May 22, 2006 12:10 PM
To: Kevin Martin; Jonathan Adelstein; Michael Copps; Deborah Tate
Subject: FCC and VRS

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Office of the Secretary

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San Diego, California

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Sincerely,

Melinda Harrison
San Diego, California

No. of Copies rec'd 0
List ABCDE

03-123

Sandralyn Bailey**From:** Wanda Garner-Gaddis [Wandadaxx1@aim.com]**Sent:** Tuesday, May 02, 2006 5:52 AM**To:** KJMWEB**Subject:** Require Relay Interoperability

May 2, 2006

Commissioner Kevin Martin

445 12th St SW

445 12th St SW

Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED
JUN 9 2006
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Commissioner Martin,

I was gratified to learn that the FCC is "actively considering" the issue of blocked access to video relay services (VRS). Please require interoperability and compatibility across Relay providers at the earliest possible date. I agree with the National Association of the Deaf that this rule should be required. See <http://www.nad.org/openrelay> for more information.

I want to be able to use Relay anytime with anyone, using any Relay provider, just as two hearing people can call each other regardless of who is their telephone product/service provider.

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I do accept free Relay equipment and software from providers—not necessarily because I like a particular provider the most—but because it is free—and allows me to make calls I couldn't make before. While I appreciate the free equipment and software, I want to be able to make and receive Relay calls from anybody without any restrictions from Relay providers.

I look forward to the FCC acting quickly to implement rules ending blocking and requiring interoperability.

Sincerely,

Wanda Garner-Gaddis
1365 Kennon Rd
Fortson, GA 31808

CC: Representative Lynn Westmoreland
Senator John Isakson

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LHM ABCDE

5/24/2006

03-123

Sandralyn Bailey

From: Timothy Wata [TWATA@cfl.rr.com]
Sent: Monday, May 01, 2006 8:42 PM
To: KJMWEB
Subject: Require Relay Interoperability

May 1, 2006
 Commissioner Kevin Martin
 445 12th St SW
 445 12th St SW
 Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED
 JUN 1 2006
 Federal Communications Commission
 Office of the Secretary

Dear Commissioner Martin,

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Sincerely,

Timothy Wata
 7651 Eldorado Pl
 Orlando, FL 32818

CC: Senator Mel Martinez
 Representative Corrine Brown

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5/24/2006

03-123

Sandralyn Bailey

From: Elizabeth O'Dell [eodell@umich.edu]
Sent: Thursday, May 04, 2006 12:52 PM
To: KJMWEB
Subject: Require Relay Interoperability

RECEIVED
JUN 4 2006
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

May 4, 2006
Commissioner Kevin Martin
445 12th St SW
445 12th St SW
Washington, DC 20554

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Sincerely,

Elizabeth O'Dell
2910 Pheasant Run Dr Apt G
Jackson, MI 49202

CC: Representative John Schwarz
Senator Carl Levin

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5/24/2006

03-123

Sandralyn Bailey

From: LeRoy Terrio [leroy.terrio2@verizon.net]
Sent: Wednesday, May 03, 2006 8:42 PM
To: KJMWEB
Subject: Require Relay Interoperability

May 3, 2006
Commissioner Kevin Martin
445 12th St SW
445 12th St SW
Washington, DC 20554

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JUN 5 2006
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Commissioner Martin,

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Sincerely,

LeRoy Terrio
3905 Vintage Pl
Flower Mound, TX 75028

CC: Representative Michael Burgess
Senator Kay Hutchison

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5/24/2006

03-123

Sandralyn Bailey

From: Stephen Kroft [stephenkroft@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, May 12, 2006 4:32 PM
To: KJMWEB
Subject: Require Relay Interoperability

May 12, 2006
Commissioner Kevin J. Martin
445 12th St SW
445 12th St SW
Washington, DC 20554

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JUN 5 2006
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

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I look forward to the FCC acting quickly to implement rules ending blocking and requiring interoperability.

Sincerely,

Stephen Kroft
8303 Craig Ave
Omaha, NE 68122-1272

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5/24/2006

03-123

Sandra Lyn Bailey

From: Rene Wirtjes [werejust@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, May 12, 2006 12:02 PM
To: KJMWEB
Subject: Require Relay Interoperability

RECEIVED
JUN 5 2006
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

May 12, 2006
Commissioner Kevin J. Martin
445 12th St SW
445 12th St SW
Washington, DC 20554

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I look forward to the FCC acting quickly to implement rules ending blocking and requiring interoperability.

Sincerely,

Rene Wirtjes
16212 E Keymar Dr
Fountain Hills, AZ 85268-2743

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